



King County

Community Services Division

Department of Community and Human Services

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TTY RELAY: 711

Veteran Citizens Levy Oversight Board (VCLOB) Meeting Summary

July 18, 2013, 10am–2pm
Douglass Truth Library – Seattle

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Francisco Ivarra at 10:10am.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Francisco Ivarra-Chair, Kathy Lewis, Mary Kay Lewis, Robert Stephens, Jr., Curtis Thompson, Ray Tomlinson, Bill Wood

Board Members Excused/Absent: Stan Gunno, Oren Hadaller, Doug Hoople, John Pruitt

King County Staff Present: George Dignan, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS); Jon Hoskins, DCHS; Marcy Kubbs, DCHS; Pat Lemus, DCHS; Laird Redway, DCHS; Laurie Sylla, DCHS

Guests: Dixon McReynolds, III

King County Regional Veterans Initiative (RVI)

Pat Lemus provided an update on the RVI Report and Recommendations and requested board feedback. She also asked for their feedback on the proposal to use the \$326,902 in unspent 2012 Veterans Levy funds to help support the initiative.

Discussion

Board members provided feedback on the RVI Report and Recommendations. There was some discussion of the definition of veteran and individual board member ideas included:

- Provide both the federal and King County definitions of a veteran.
- Consider using the language “military service” instead of veteran.
- Add an attachment to the report that includes the various veteran definitions used by veterans’ services systems.

Board members also discussed other Veterans Levy funded programs that might benefit from these unspent funds.

Actions

- The board passed a motion recommending that the RVI be specific on the definition of veteran.
- The board passed a motion supporting the RVI Report and Recommendations and the use of the unspent 2012 Veterans Levy funds to support the initiative.



Veterans System Mapping

Jon Hoskins, Manager, King County Performance Measurement and Evaluation Unit, briefed the board on the Veterans System Mapping project. The purpose of the project is to improve the understanding of the breadth of King County veteran service resources; and create system tools to visually display the current state of these resources as systems of services. The systems inventory and maps will be used by stakeholders, policy makers, and service providers to implement improved coordination of policy and services for veterans in King County, educate the community on the King County veterans service system, develop metrics for system improvement and be a tool to help service providers and their clients navigate the regional veterans service system.

Review of Meeting Summary

The May 16, 2013 meeting summary was approved as written.

Board Operating Procedures

Due to time constraints, the Board Operating Procedures discussion was rescheduled for the next board meeting.

Board Leadership

Marcy Kubbs consulted with the King County Office of Prosecuting Attorney's Office (PAO) on the question of whether the use of paper ballots to conduct board elections was considered voting by secret ballot and prohibited by the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA). According to the PAO, elections conducted using paper ballots would be considered "secret". While the issue of whether the levy oversight boards are subject to the OPMA is a grey area, given that the boards strive to conduct their business in compliance with the OPMA, the use of paper ballots would be prohibited.

The VCLOB then conducted a re-election of 2013 officers. By show of hands, board members unanimously elected Francisco Ivarra as Chair and Douglas Hoople as Vice Chair.

VCLOB Chair's Report

Francisco Ivarra reported on the last month's joint levy board meeting that was held at Terry Home Auburn, a capital project serving veterans that received Veterans and Human Services Levy funds.

King County Staff Report

Marcy had nothing additional to report.

Old Business

None

New Business

A board member proposed that to be in compliance with the OPMA, it would be appropriate to replace "New Business" on the meeting agenda with "Future Agenda Items". Under this portion of the meeting topics would be suggested for inclusion on the next board agenda, allowing the public to be fully informed of the topics to be discussed. Members were supportive of the change.

Public Comment

- The Mobile Medical Van has been purchased and an open house for the van will be held in the coming months.

- King County's Employment and Education Resources is offering a new machining class and is currently recruiting veterans. They will also be offering a Fearless Math course over the summer that will have space for 18 in the class.
- A Veterans Task Force meeting was held at the National Mayor's conference. Mayor Lewis may soon be working at the national level on veterans issues.
- The Department of Health is offering a Suicide Training class in Tumwater.
- It would be helpful if the VA could offer Veteran ID enrollment in places other than downtown.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4 pm.